

Like W.E.B. DuBois and the other founders back in 1909, we, too, must answer the call. In our own time, we must continue the work of creating a better, more unified nation—an America that will truly assure liberty, justice and opportunity for all.

We, too, have a legacy of justice and opportunity to create—for our children and for the generations of Americans yet to be born.

HONORING THE NAACP ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor the 100th anniversary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP. Today, February 12, 2009, marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of the NAACP and the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. For a Nation that is less than 250 years old, the centennial of the NAACP is a major milestone.

I shudder to imagine what this country would look like if our history did not include the stories and struggles of people like Frederick Douglass, Rosa Parks, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., our own Representative JOHN LEWIS, and many countless others who have fought and continue to fight for equal rights and equal opportunity.

The NAACP's roots date back to the "Niagra Movement" of 1905 when thirty-two prominent African Americans met to organize and call for the end of racial inequality. A forceful agent for change, the NAACP was the leading party behind many accomplishments of the Civil Rights Movement, including the landmark case *Brown v. the Board of Education* which ended racial segregation in our schools.

The Niagra and Civil Rights Movements were not the first calls for freedom and equality in our nation's history and will not be the last. But their success provided a blueprint for future generations to follow, an example of hope to all those who seek to secure the basic freedoms guaranteed by our Constitution.

Today, the NAACP continues to cement its reputation as a trailblazer for basic civil and human rights. Led by its young new president, Benjamin Jealous, the NAACP has refocused its objectives on resolving wide disparities in access to jobs and healthcare among Americans. During the next 100 years, I have no doubt that the NAACP will lead many more breakthroughs in civil and human rights.

This anniversary gives all Americans an opportunity to recognize and learn about African-American history, which is also the history of the United States. I am proud to do my part to promote and honor the contributions made by the NAACP and the African American community to our great Nation.

HONORING JOHN D. DINGELL FOR HOLDING THE RECORD AS THE LONGEST SERVING MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTA- TIVES

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, as do so many, to honor JOHN DINGELL as he achieves a great milestone: our longest-serving House member.

In December 1955, at the age of 29, JOHN won a special election to replace his father. 19,420 days later, we honor him and his spectacular record in serving the people of the United States and of his Michigan district.

In December 1955—just to give you a sense of the eras, then and now—Rosa Parks took a stand by refusing to give up her seat on a bus home from work in Montgomery, Alabama.

Today, as we honor JOHN, we have an African-American President.

People make change—and JOHN DINGELL has made more than his share.

As Chairman, now Chairman Emeritus, of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, he has carried perhaps the broadest portfolio of any House member in history, from energy, trade and telecommunications to Medicare, Medicaid, consumer protection and government oversight and investigations—Energy and Commerce handled up to 40% of all House legislation in some sessions.

An avid outdoorsman and former forest ranger, JOHN was an "environmentalist" before the word "environmentalist" existed.

He was instrumental in the passage of some of our nation's most important environmental laws, including the Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and the 1990 Clean Air Act.

And JOHN almost single-handedly has created the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge, which began in 2001 with some 400 acres and has grown since then to encompass over 4,000 acres from River Rouge to Lake Erie.

He has been steadfast in supporting health care for all Americans. Each Congress, he sponsors a national health insurance plan—picking up the baton from his father who first introduced it in 1943. He fought for the Patient's Bill of Rights and the Children's Health Insurance Program. And he was the presiding officer as this House passed Medicare in 1965.

Together, JOHN and I worked on identifying the persistence of the "glass ceiling" which limits the advancement of women in the workplace.

JOHN could not have known in 1955 the changes he would see, and the change he would make, as a member of this body. It has been a career of accomplishment—but now, also, it is a career of longevity.

Martin Luther King once said "It is the quality, not the longevity of one's life that is important." But JOHN DINGELL has had BOTH quality and longevity. May he keep up the great work.

JOHN, please accept my humble congratulations and extend my love to Debbie and your family.

PRODUCED WATER UTILIZATION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 469—the Produced Water Utilization Act of 2009—introduced by the Ranking Member of the Science Committee, Mr. HALL of Texas. I want to thank Mr. HALL for constructing this thoughtful legislation and for the constant leadership he has provided to both Energy and Commerce Committee and the Science Committee.

Produced water is comprised mainly of salty water that is trapped in reservoir rock below ground. It comes to the surface when drilling for oil or natural gas and usually contains oil and metals from production. Approximately 10 barrels of produced water are captured for every barrel of oil derived, and that results in a total of 15–20 billion barrels of produced water generated here in the United States on an annual basis.

Mr. Speaker, as the population of the United States continues to grow, additional potable water supplies will be required to sustain individuals, agriculture, and industry all over the country. H.R. 469 represents an innovative way in which we can utilize the produced water resources that would otherwise go to waste.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation directs the Secretary of Energy to establish a program for research and development to harvest produced water in an environmentally safe way for irrigation, municipal, and industrial purposes. Once this program is established, we can help address the droughts that are occurring across the country—including in my Northwest Georgia district—simply by providing the public with additional water resources.

Mr. Speaker, I have to commend my colleague from Texas on his leadership on this issue and working in a bipartisan manner to bring it to the floor today.

I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 469.

RECOGNIZING THE 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICANS TO JOIN THE BALTIMORE CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 12, 2009

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, Black History Month allows this nation to pay homage to pioneering African Americans who have enriched our lives through their leadership and courage. Citizens across the globe are familiar with the legacies of Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks, and now President Barack Obama. However, today I rise to recognize some lesser known, but equally important figures in history: the 41 African American males that integrated the Baltimore City Fire Department in the early 1950's.

On June 19, 1953, the Board of Fire Commissioners voted to hire "Colored" firemen. In

July, 41 African American men were determined to be eligible to be employed by the fire department. These men were appointed in three classes: 10 were appointed on October 15, 1953; 10 were appointed December 20, 1953, and 21 were appointed February 8, 1954. Just a few days ago, we commemorated the 55th anniversary of the completed integration.

These brave men faced very difficult times. They overcame insurmountable challenges and obstacles in order to become great assets to the Baltimore City Fire Department. All of these men have made exceptional contributions; I will take a moment to highlight a few accomplishments. From the 1954 Class, James Crockett re-wrote the department rules and regulations for the Fire Board, served as President of the Board of Fire Commissioners, and now serves as Commissioner of the Baltimore City Fire Department; Charles R. Thomas Sr. helped to start the first Baltimore City Fire Department, was active in starting the community outreach programs and led the charge to integrating the local labor union; and Herman Williams, Jr. became the first African American to be promoted to pump operator (driver), and is the first and only African American to become Chief of the Baltimore City Fire Department.

Madam Speaker, as we champion the presidency of Barack Obama, we must also remember the trailblazers who opened the door of opportunity to many in significant ways. It is with great admiration that these men who have paved the way for diversity within the Baltimore City Fire Department are recognized.

Class Appointed October 15, 1953

Lee D. Babb
Cicero Baldwin
Ernest H. Barnes
Louis Harden
Earl C. Jones
George C.W. McKnight
Charles T. Miller
Roy Parker
Charles L. Scott
Lindsay Washington, Jr.

Class Appointed December 20, 1953

Harvey Brown
John Butler
Thomas Chambers
John Davis
Randolph Handy
John Johnson
William Nesbit
David Pipken
Edgar Waddell
Ben Wood

Class Appointed February 8, 1954

Theodore Baker
Albert L. Biggers
Harold Borrowes
Alfred Boyd
William Brown
Edward R. Bunch Jr.
Alfred Clinkscales
James Crockett
Alfred Daniels
James Edwards
Celester A. Hall
Wade Morgan El
John T. Murray
Yeubear T. Poe

Raymond Purnell
Hilton Roberts
William L. Spicer
Charles R. Thomas
Eugene P. Watson
Herman Williams Jr.
Littleton B. Wyatt

KEEP FAMILIES TOGETHER

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 12, 2009

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about a very important bill that I just re-introduced, the Keeping Families Together Act of 2009 (H.R. 938). This bill would reinstate judicial review to the immigration process, end the practice of automatically detaining productive members of our society for minor crimes they committed years ago and for which they have already served with their sentence, and allow immigrants previously deported to appeal that decision.

This law has allowed stable, long-term families headed by legal immigrants to be torn apart because of minor crimes committed years ago—crimes for which the offender has already served their sentence!

You may recall that a basic legislative attempt to fix this law was passed by the House of Representatives in the 106th Congress, but it was never taken up by the Senate. The time has come to reverse the unfair so-called “immigration reforms” instituted by the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996.

Please join me in supporting this critical legislation to restore justice to our immigration process, by co-sponsoring the Keeping Families Together Act of 2009.

HONORING MIAMI UNIVERSITY FOR ITS 200 YEARS OF COMMIT- MENT TO EXTRAORDINARY HIGHER EDUCATION

SPEECH OF

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, as a native of Wisconsin, it may be strange that I am here to honor Miami University. However, this proud Wisconsinite is also a proud graduate of Miami University. I graduated from Miami University in 1992.

One of the reasons why I am here, standing and talking in the well of the House of Representatives, is because of the lessons that I learned at Miami University. I studied both economics and political science at Miami, and the excellent professors I had there—including Dr. Richard Hart—created an environment where intellectual curiosity was rewarded. It also was where I first became involved with politics. In fact, one of my early involvements in politics was working as a college Republican, working door-to-door for a new person running for Congress by the name of JOHN BOEHNER, our now esteemed minority leader, for whom I knocked on doors in Trenton, Ohio.

But, more to the point, Mr. Speaker, this is the bicentennial of Miami University. Two-hundred years of proud history. Founded in 1809, it is a school with such a rich history and proud tradition of top academic and athletic achievement. It is known as the “Cradle of Coaches” due to the high caliber of coaches it has produced, which includes such notables as Ara Parseghian, Paul Brown, and Woody Hayes.

Miami has also gained national recognition as one of the best Universities in the country. Referred to as one of the “Public Ivies,” due to its outstanding academic reputation, Miami ranks as a top school for all academic programs, including its business program, its arts and sciences programs and its architecture program. Importantly, in a time of increasing globalization, it consistently ranks as one of the top schools for study abroad programs, including the outstanding Transatlantic Seminar program.

One of the great things about Miami is its beauty, its aesthetics. It's one of the most beautiful campuses in America. The poet Robert Frost called Miami “the prettiest campus that ever was.”

Miami University has such a rich tradition. It has produced so many great, faithful servants here in the Capitol, in public, in private institutions. It's a real honor and privilege for me to be able to be here to be a part of this resolution, to be a cosponsor of it, and to honor this tradition, I know that Miami's best days are yet ahead.

WATER USE EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION RESEARCH ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 631—the Water Use Efficiency and Conservation Research Act. I commend my colleague—Mr. MATHESON of Utah—for crafting this thoughtful legislation that was reported to the House on a broad bipartisan basis.

Over the past couple of years, my home State of Georgia—and specifically my district—has experienced significant and historic drought conditions that have brought to the forefront what the future may hold for our local water supply.

In addition to the drought conditions in my district, a number of other states are facing similar challenges. Over the next five years, more than half of the states in our country anticipate some sort of water shortage that will wreak havoc on our environment, as well as our economy. In these currently tumultuous economic times, we need to take every step possible to efficiently use our water supply to assist our struggling economy.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 631 promotes the adoption of emerging technologies to help us make better use of one of our most precious resources—water. This legislation addresses ways in which the Environmental Protection Agency can use its Office of Research and Development to promote technologies that increase water efficiency and conservation via collection, treatment, and reuse of rainwater